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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/569,517	02/24/2006	Roland Mayer	VOI0443.US	9683
41863	7590	08/13/2008	EXAMINER	
TAYLOR & AUST, P.C.			LANGDON, EVAN H	
P.O. Box 560			ART UNIT	
142. S Main Street			PAPER NUMBER	
Avilla, IN 46710			3654	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/569,517

Applicant(s)

MAYER ET AL.

Examiner

EVAN H. LANGDON

Art Unit

3654

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 36-70 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 36-70 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/55/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: ____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 36- 42 and 47-70 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Meyer (US 7,025,303).

In regard to claim 36-41 ad 68-70, Meyer discloses a web-guiding device comprising:

at least one guide element 1 for non-contact web guidance;

wherein the guide element has a guide surface, the guide surface comprising an air-permeable porous material to which compressed air is applied;

whereby air flowing through the porous material forms an air cushion between the guide surface and a material web; and

wherein the guide surface is divided along the direction of movement (Fig. 5) of the material web into at least one web transition zone 1b and a web-guiding zone 1a, wherein the at least one web transition zone 1b has a higher air throughput than the web-guiding zone, wherein the web transition zone 1b is one of a web run-on zone and a web run-off zone (Fig. 5), wherein the guide surface has two web transition zones 1b between which, with respect to the direction of movement (Fig. 5) of the material web 5, the web-guiding zone 1a is arranged; and wherein the

two web transition zones are a web run-on zone and a web run-off zone 1b, and wherein the web run-on zone and the web run-off zone have a different air throughput.

In regard to claim 42, Meyers teaches a porosity 15 of the at least one web transition zone and porosity of the web-guiding zone are different and the porosity of the at least one web transition zone 1b is higher than the porosity of the web-guiding zone 1a.

In regard to claims 47 and 48, Meyers teaches the guide surface 1a is curved and wherein the at least one web transition zone extends along the direction of movement (Fig. 5) of the material web, with respect to the radius of curvature of the guide surface, by a segment angle about the geometric point at which the material web runs one of on and off the guide surface; and the at least one web transition zone extends by an asymmetric segment angle about the geometric point at which the material web runs one of on and off the guide surface (Fig. 5).

In regard to claims 49-55, Meyer discloses at least one pressure chamber, the porous material 15 is part of the chamber wall, the interior pressure is at least one of higher 0.5 bar and 1 bar (col. 3, ll. 40), and the pore spacing is less than 0.1 mm (col. 3, ll. 55-56).

In regard to claims 63-65, Meyer discloses the guide roll is divided into a plurality of zones 1b, 1a having different air throughput, the zones being two layers 1b, 1a.

In regard to claims 66-67, Meyers discloses the guide elements is one of metal or ceramic (col. 3, ll. 62-63).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 43-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Meyer in view of Gavit et al. (US 6,722,608).

Gavit teaches porous transition zones where at least one transition zone is higher than another zone, and where at least one transition zone has a higher pressure. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the web guiding surface of Meyer to include varying porosity or pressure as suggested by Gavit, to effectively guide different types of webs in varying conditions.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to EVAN H. LANGDON whose telephone number is (571)272-6948. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Cuomo can be reached on (571) 272-6856. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Evan H Langdon
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3654

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